

Minutes of the meeting of the Municipal District of Piltown

Date: Wednesday 4th November, 2020 @ 10.00a.m.

Venue: Library meeting room, Ferrybank, Co. Kilkenny and via MS Teams remote

Chair: Cllr Eamonn Aylward

Present at venue: Cllr Ger Frisby, Cllr Pat Dunphy.

Present via MS Teams: Cllr Fidelis Doherty, Cllr Tomás Breathnach.

Apologies: None

In attendance at venue: Mr. Sean Mc Keown, Director of Services; Mr. Michael Arthurs, Meetings Administrator; Mr. Stan Cullen, Area Engineer;

In attendance via MS Teams: Mr. Dermot Keyes, Munster Express; Mr. Sam Matthews, Kilkenny People; Ms. Carmel Brett, Staff Officer.

1) Confirmation of Minutes

The Minutes of the Municipal District Meeting of Wednesday 7th October, 2020 were proposed by Cllr Pat Dunphy, seconded by Ger Frisby and agreed.

Matters arising:

Cllr Dunphy asked if any feedback had been received regarding the N24 junctions at Rathkieran and the bridge at Ballynamountain; SC advised the matters are still under review.

Cllr Doherty asked for update on preferred route of N25 Waterford to Glenmore Scheme; Mr. Cullen advised that he is not aware of any change to the programme of selecting the preferred route before the end of 2020.

Cllr Breathnach asked if possible to compile list of locations of speeding on local roads for surveys to be undertaken and this data to also be shared when meeting with Gardai to seek resolutions – Mr. Cullen agreed to prepare a list of locations. **ACTION SC**

2) Agree by resolution to restrict duration of meeting to maximum of 1 hour 55 minutes in compliance with Public Health Guidance

Proposed by Cllr. Ger Frisby, seconded by Cllr. P. Dunphy and agreed.

3) Consideration of Reports and Recommendations

(a) Update Monthly Roadworks (Stan Cullen)

Mr. Stan Cullen outlined details in relation to pavement works, discretionary maintenance, drainage works and other ongoing works as set out in his circulated report.

Cllr Doherty thanked Mr. Cullen and the roads crew for works ongoing and completed.

Mr. Cullen confirmed to Cllr Breathnach that the deadline has been extended to March 2021 for installation of outdoor furniture under Town & Village Accelerated Measures in response to Covid-19 in Mooncoin, Kilmacow, Mullinavat and Piltown. Mr. Cullen confirmed to Cllr. Aylward that these works would commence in December 2020.

(b) Update Poulanassy Waterfall (Stan Cullen)

Update report was circulated to the members prior to the meeting.

Mr. Cullen informed the members that following amendment to Part VIII proposals approved on 12th June last for amenity works to improve access to the waterfall and provide parking facilities, design consultants were appointed in July, design is now completed and the tender published on 29th October, with closing date of 19th November.

Appointment of a contractor will be made as soon as possible thereafter.

Mr. Cullen confirmed to Cllr. Aylward that the tender provided for the completion of the environmentally sensitive works by end of February 2021.

(c) Update South East Greenway (Sean McKeown)

Update report was circulated to the members prior to the meeting and Mr. Sean McKeown updated the members accordingly.

In reply to questions from the members, Mr. McKeown said an Environmental Impact Assessment is required for the proposed Rosslare link, and the position of Business Development Executive cannot be advertised yet due to Covid-19 restrictions.

He confirmed that works should be complete by March 2022.

Mr. McKeown also confirmed that the design for a section of Greenway will be accessible to the public to view, perhaps in the Ferrybank library and in New Ross to the best of the Council's ability in line with Covid-19 restrictions.

(d) Update on North Quays SDZ Development (Sean McKeown)

Mr. McKeown updated the members on the current status of the five main infrastructural works in line with an update report that was circulated.

In reply to queries from Cllr Breathnach, Mr. McKeown said the Greenway website was constructed to provide updates on construction of the Greenway and it will be used more going forward as a communication channel and Mr. Arthurs confirmed he has contacted Waterford City and County Council (WCCC) with a view to their participation in the November/December Council meeting.

4) Business prescribed by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolutions of the Municipal District for transaction at such meeting

(a) Amendment to Standing Orders to allow remote meetings per S.I. No. 445 of 2020

Cllr Doherty proposed, Cllr Frisby seconded and all agreed amendment of Standing Orders to allow remote meetings per S.I. No. 445 of 2020.

Members agreed caveats that quality of communications should be adequate and that physical meetings would resume as soon as public health advice allows.

(b) Taking in charge of Monuments and Memorials

Mr. McKeown said Mr. Tim Butler, Director of Services requested that the members discuss a report on Monuments and Memorials which stated that, following requests for the Sinnott's Cross Monument to be taken into charge, an audit of memorials, plaques and signs had identified in excess of 300 such memorials throughout the county.

Mr. McKeown said the main concern for the Sinnott's Cross Monument is the cost of Public Liability Insurance and the Municipal Districts were asked to consider making an amendment

to the criteria of the Amenity Grants Scheme to allow Insurance costs as eligible for consideration under this scheme.

He said that Irish Public Bodies had confirmed that this monument cannot be included under the Councils Public Liability Insurance as it is not part of the property owned by the Council. Answering a question about community playgrounds being insured by the Council, Mr. McKeown said there are sufficient regular inspections carried out to satisfy IPB that they can be included for cover.

The members agreed that there were two separate matters for decision; Cllr Dunphy proposed, Cllr Aylward seconded and all agreed that the Council should seek a mechanism to include Sinnott's Cross monument under the Council's public liability Insurance cover.

Cllr Frisby proposed, Cllr Doherty seconded and all agreed that their recommendation to the CPG is to change the criteria for the Amenity Grants Scheme to include Insurance costs as an eligible criterion.

5) **Notices of Motion**

There were no items for discussion

6) **Correspondence**

There were no items for discussion

7) **Any other Business**

(a) Cllr Doherty – Glenmore bus stop/weighbridge update

Cllr Doherty requested an update on the status of the unused Glenmore bus stop and weighbridge, saying it the matter has been ongoing since 2014.

Mr. Cullen said these facilities are included in a feasibility study which would happen when the route selection for the Waterford/Glenmore route is finalised, and he further clarified that the status of the road at Glenmore Hill won't be decided until route selection takes place; however, the TII are the decision makers on this road as it is currently classified as a National Primary road.

The members agreed that a letter should issue to TII from the Municipal District requesting that reopening of the weighbridge and reinstatement of the bus stop. – **Action MA**

Regarding the neighbourhood park in Ferrybank, Mr. McKeown acknowledged that while there was a problem with litter initially when the park opened, this appears to have abated now; he added that it is hoped to hire an additional General Operative to maintain amenities.

This concluded the business of the meeting at 11.23a.m.

Signed: _____
Cathaoirleach

Date: _____